

Therefore, we are proposing that the full Legislature engage in a discussion regarding the appropriate mix of local and state governance in the K-University system. It makes sense to focus on the basic structural element of governance by clear identification of the appropriate responsibilities of the state and local schools and districts. It would then be consistent and entirely appropriate to address governance in the community college system, and finally address the connectivity and role of each post-secondary establishment (Community Colleges, CSU, and UC). With the governance of each segment linked throughout the education system in a cohesive manner, all succeeding legislative decisions regarding funding, programs, etc. would then flow from the construct of the K-University governance structures.

The next step would be to determine funding principles for the long term, i.e. performance funding (reflecting the attribute of program effectiveness) that would focus on the way funds are distributed. We might want to stipulate that the relationship between funding and performance be tight, automatic, and formula based. Ideally, the principles would have as much uniformity across segments as possible, considering the varied sources of revenue. Once a performance measurement system is determined, financial incentives to drive performance, which are relatively stable over time, would be created.

In this way, the Legislature would be able to utilize many positive components of this Report to clearly discuss and define a plan, as well as a destination to guide them in the development of education policy over the next 10 years. We should focus first on building what is already in place and allowing state revenues sufficient time to stabilize before any major program expansion in the system.

Thank you for this opportunity to voice concerns and present options as the Legislature contemplates the construction of a world class education system for all K-University students in California.

Sincerely,



Charles S. Poochigian



William "Pete" Knight